

Hello Latin America & Canada!

Check out *your* website at: <http://tricare15.army.mil>



- **New Dental Commander Joins the TLAC Team!**
- **New WPS Phone Number for TLAC Customer Service!**

TRICARE Region 15 Spring 2002 Conference Planning

The conference will be held in Miami, still working on the date. If you are aware of meetings and conferences that we should schedule around, please let us know via the tricare15 email address.

COL David L. Carr joined the TLAC Team in May 2001 as the Commander of the SE Regional Dental Command (SERDC). In addition to his SERDC duties, COL Carr reviews and determines the necessity for orthodontic treatment for TLAC family members and routine dental treatment that exceeds \$500 for the active duty service member. Each case is reviewed to protect the beneficiary and ensure that the treatment plan is appropriate and justifies the requested dental care.

In order for COL Carr to evaluate a request for orthodontic care, the orthodontic package should be mailed to the TRICARE Support Office (TSO) and include the following:

- Proposed treatment plan
- Non-availability and referral form
- Predetermination claim form (attending dentist's statement on top of form)
- Panorex and cephalometric x-rays
- Hand articulated study models with heels of casts trimmed to occlusion
- Extra-oral facial photographs (front and lateral views)
- Intra-oral photographs (frontal, right, and left lateral, and occlusal views)
- Tracings with cephalometric x-rays (preferred)

Orthodontic treatment must be performed by a TLAC Authorized Orthodontist and treatment must be completed by the time of the sponsor's rotation date.

Orthodontic treatment that began in CONUS and care needs to be continued overseas. If the OCONUS orthodontist plans to continue the original treatment plan, please submit a completed Non-Availability and Referral Form, an "Attending Dentist/Orthodontist's Form" that includes a signed statement from the OCONUS orthodontist that the original treatment will be continued, attach the original plan of treatment, and forward to TSO for further approval and processing. If the OCONUS orthodontist wants to change the treatment plan, pre-authorization is required by following the instructions for a new treatment plan.

To receive orthodontic care, you must be enrolled in TRICARE Family Member Dental Program. There is a lifetime maximum of \$1500 per family member. Family members who are eligible are spouses up to age 23, children up to age 21, (age 23 if full time students).

Routine Dental Treatment for the ADSM. Pre-authorization is required for non-emergent dental care over \$500.00. Requests for active duty service members should be forwarded to the TSO with the required documentation. In accordance with Army Regulation 40-3, the following information is required:

- Dental examination to include **x-rays and diagnosis**
- Treatment plan
- Estimate of time required for care and probable cost
- When and where the patient was last on duty at a station where dental services were available
- Probable length of tour of duty at the patient's present station and present duty status

Orthodontic and dental information should be submitted in English and mailed to the TSO.

Commander, DDEAMC
DoD TRICARE Health Services Region 15
LASE-TLAC, B38801
Fort Gordon, GA 30905-5650

Telephone #: 1-888-777-8343, Opt 3, 706-787-2424, DSN 773-2424

The TSO will notify you after COL Carr has determined if your requested orthodontic/dental treatment is appropriate/inappropriate.

WPS has new phone numbers for the beneficiary lines in Customer Service for TRICARE Overseas: 608.301.2310 replaces 224 2727, and, 608.301.2311 replaces 224 2728